

REMARKS

Claims 1-15 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1, 14 and 15 are the independent claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for allowing claims 1-13. Claims 14 and 15 are both rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Published Patent Application No. US 2001/0019482 ("Kobayashi"). This rejection is respectfully traversed based on the following remarks.

The Examiner relies on Figs. 7 and 8 for the basic features in claims 14 and 15. For the "means for blocking light" in claim 14, the Examiner turns to a different embodiment, illustrated in Fig. 12. However, these are separate embodiments, and there is no disclosure that they can be combined. In fact, the Examiner first argues that the IR light transmitting film free region is 32/26 (Fig. 8), and then in Fig. 12 the Examiner asserts that the same region is the lens 14. This is clearly inconsistent, and based on an impermissible use of hindsight. Also, the embodiments of Figs. 7/8 and 12 are at odds with each other in that Figs. 7 and 8 show the IR transmitting multilayer film 24 being disposed over the entire outer peripheral face of the bulb 21/globe 30B except for the bulb tip/annular region 32, whereas in Fig. 12 the entire outer peripheral face of the globe body 30 is covered with the IR transmitting multilayer film 24.

Also, significantly, the Examiner is incorrect that the IR transmitting multilayer film 24 traverses the light path between the reflector and convex lens 14, as recited in claims 14 and 15. Rather, the film 24 is provided between the light source 20 and the reflector 16.

Furthermore, while the Examiner is correct that the IR light transmitting film free region 32/26 is "... provided on an outer periphery of IR transmitting globe (30B) in Figure 8 which is coated with an IR transmitting multilayer film (24)...", in the present invention the infrared light transmitting film-free region is provided on an outer periphery of the infrared light transmitting film such that visible light from the light source is emitted from a rim portion of the convex lens. Kobayashi fails to disclose this arrangement of the film and film-free region.

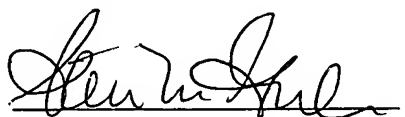
In view of the preceding remarks, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
U.S. Serial No. 10/647,325

ART UNIT 2875
Q76288

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any over-payments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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